

#12

Ivan Brandon  
Nic Klein

DEFENSE™



23rd Annual Spectrum Awards

**SPECTRUM  
AWARD**

**WINNER**

2016







ABRAM  
POLLUX  
IS  
MISSING.





WHAT  
HAPPENED,  
EMMERICH? WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
THE WORLD?



MAYBE A YEAR  
SINCE I HEARD MY  
OWN VOICE. I DON'T  
LIKE IT. I LIKE TO  
HEAR YOU EVEN  
LESS.

BUT I DON'T  
SPEAK I'M APT  
TO LOSE MY MIND.  
AND I'M GONNA  
NEED IT.



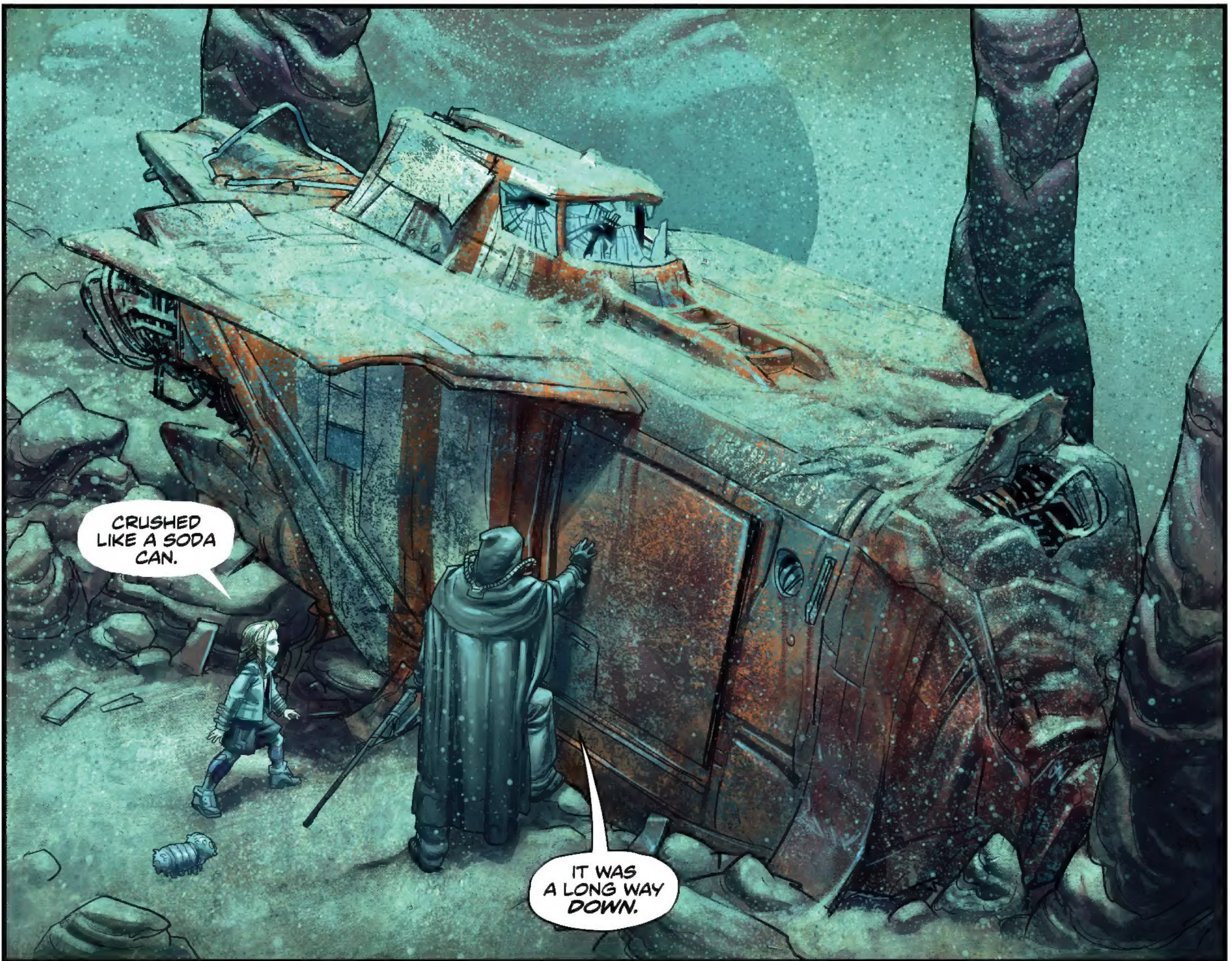
YOU GONNA  
BE LIKE THIS  
FOREVER?



MAYBE  
UP THERE IN  
THE NIGHT I  
CAN GET RID OF  
ALL THIS.

HOW YOU  
S'POSED TO  
GET UP THERE,  
THEN?





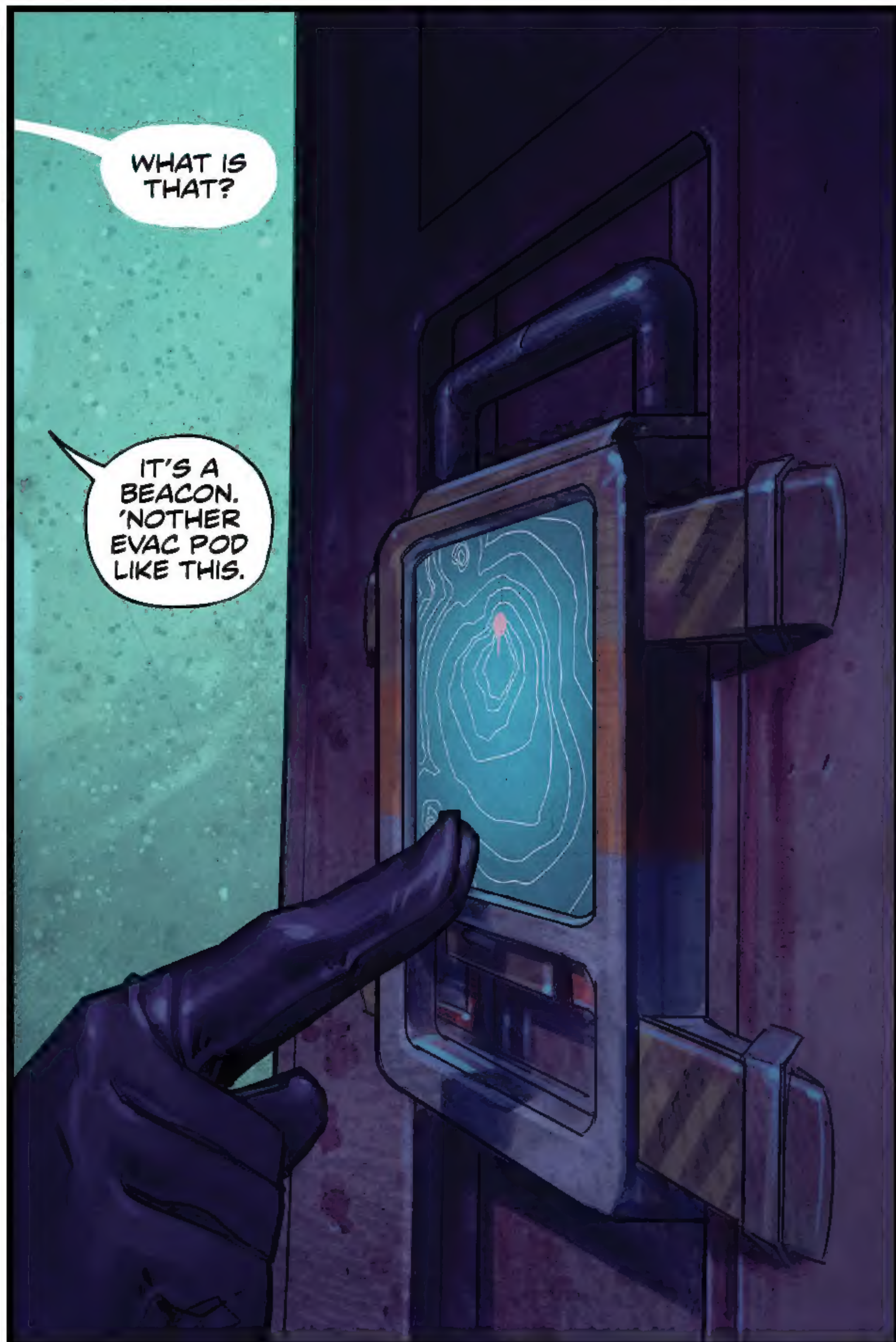








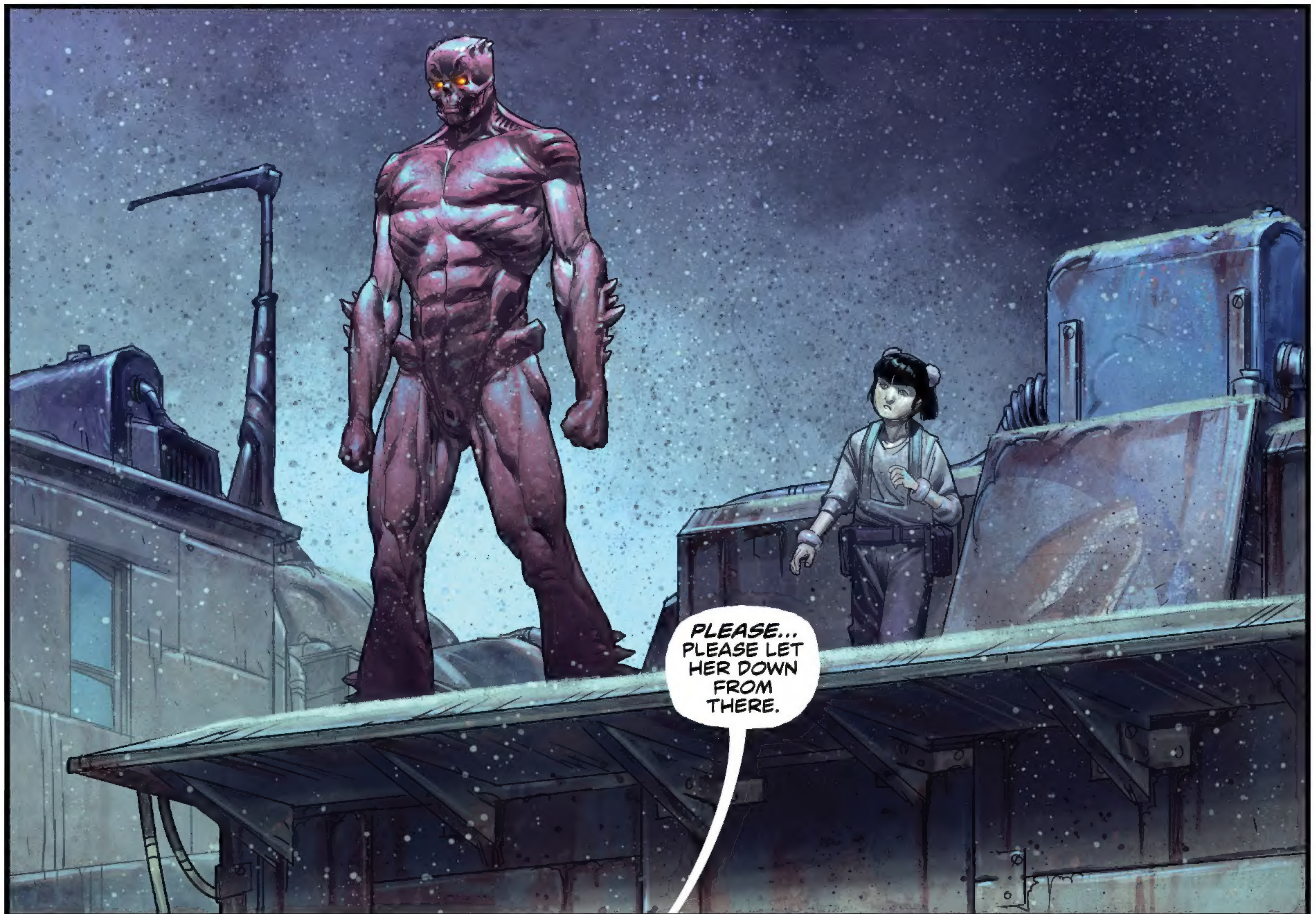












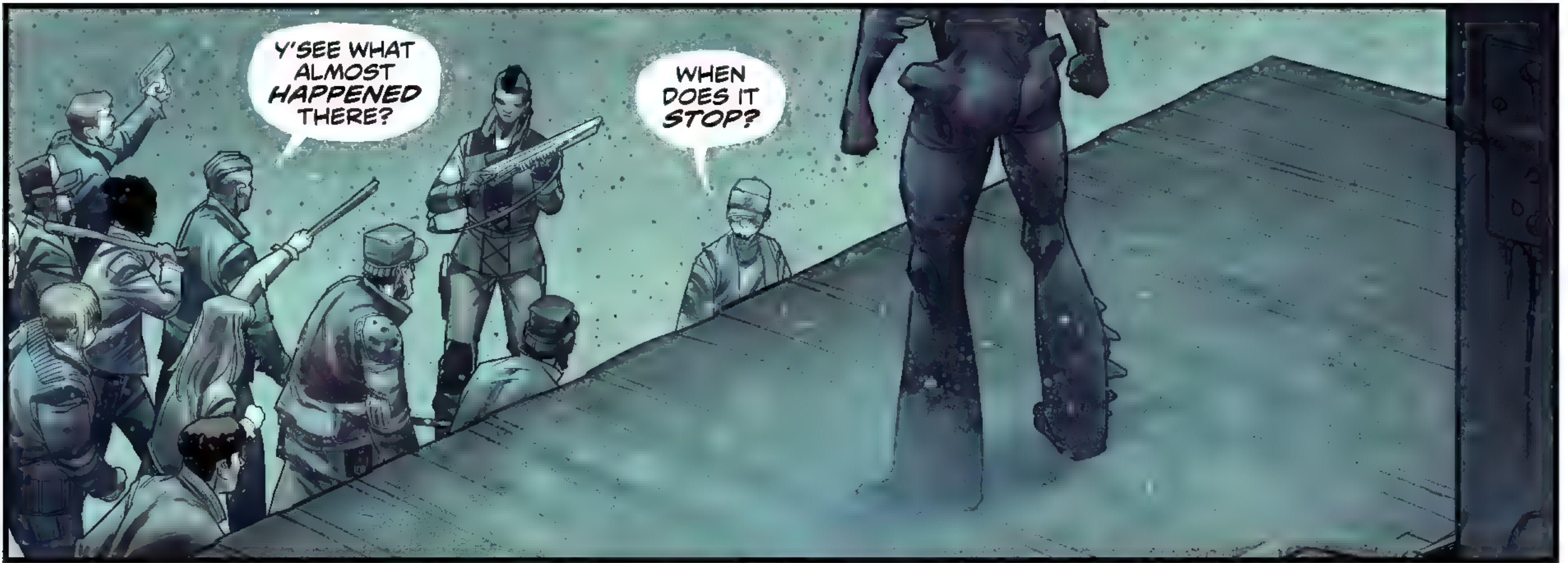








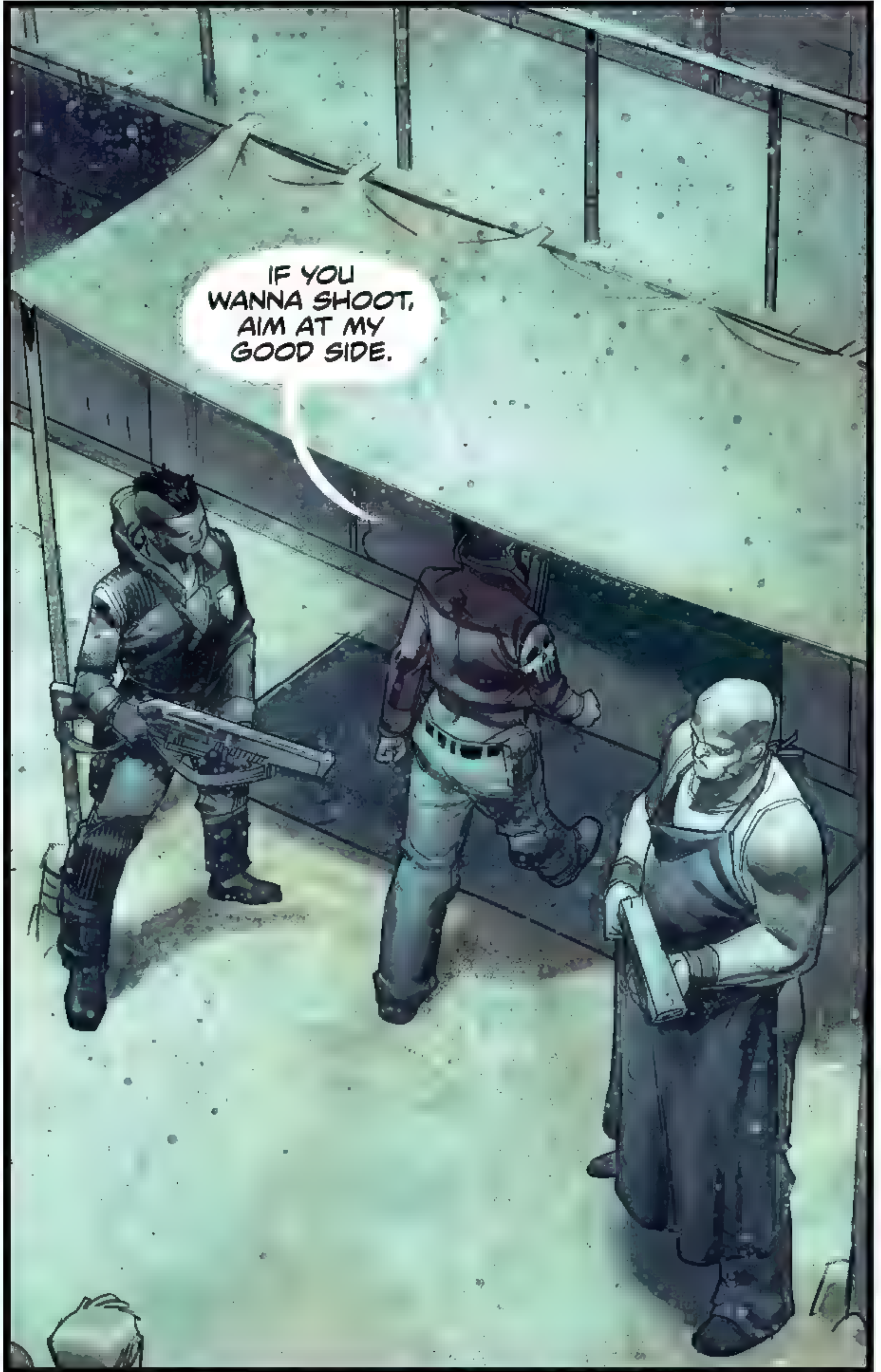
















CHRIST.

JUST  
LET'S...  
LET'S...



HOLD  
ON TO YOUR  
BREAKFAST.  
DON'T LET  
THEM RUN  
YOU OFF.



I AIN'T  
SCARED A  
YOUSE.



WE'S  
GONNA...  
GETCHAS  
OUT. AND  
THEN WE'S  
GONNA...

YOU'LL  
SEE IT.



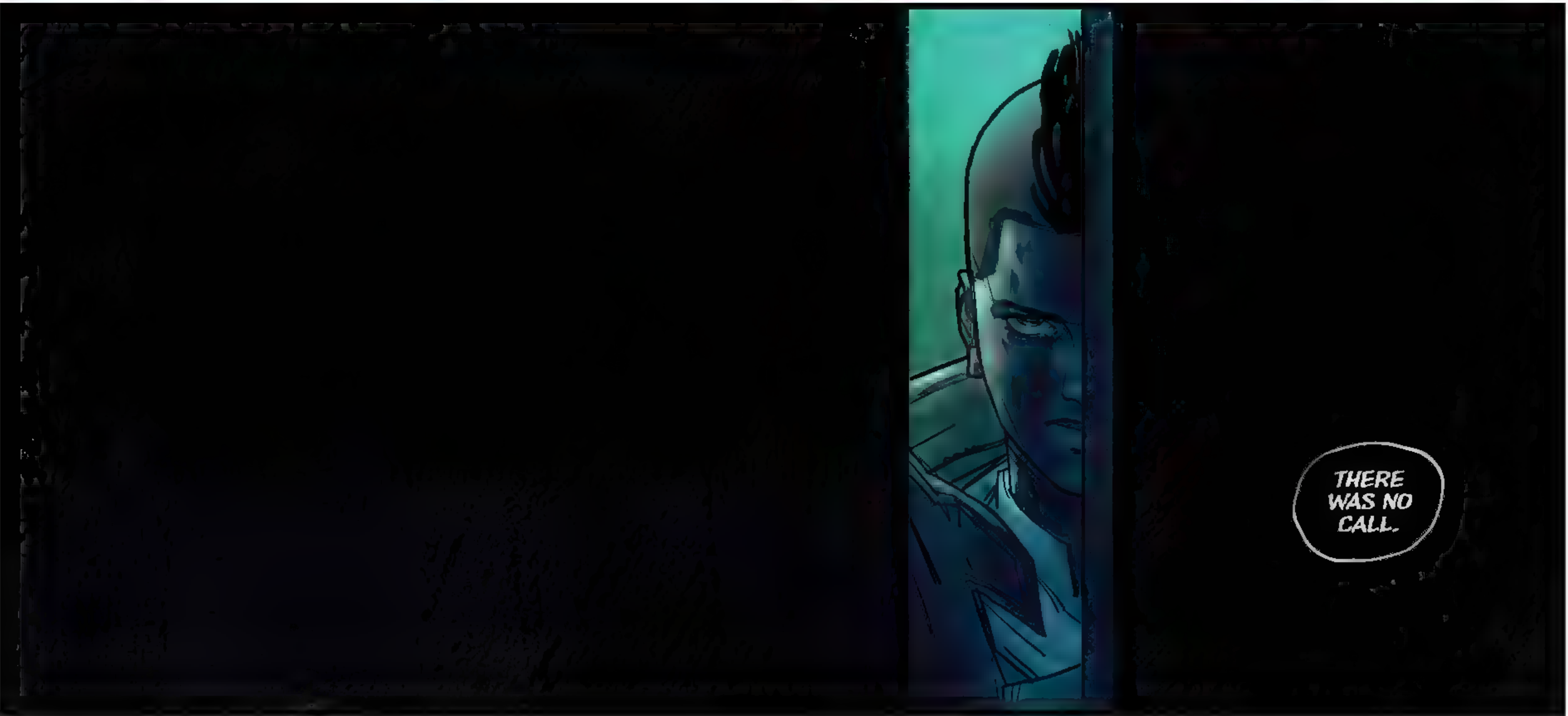
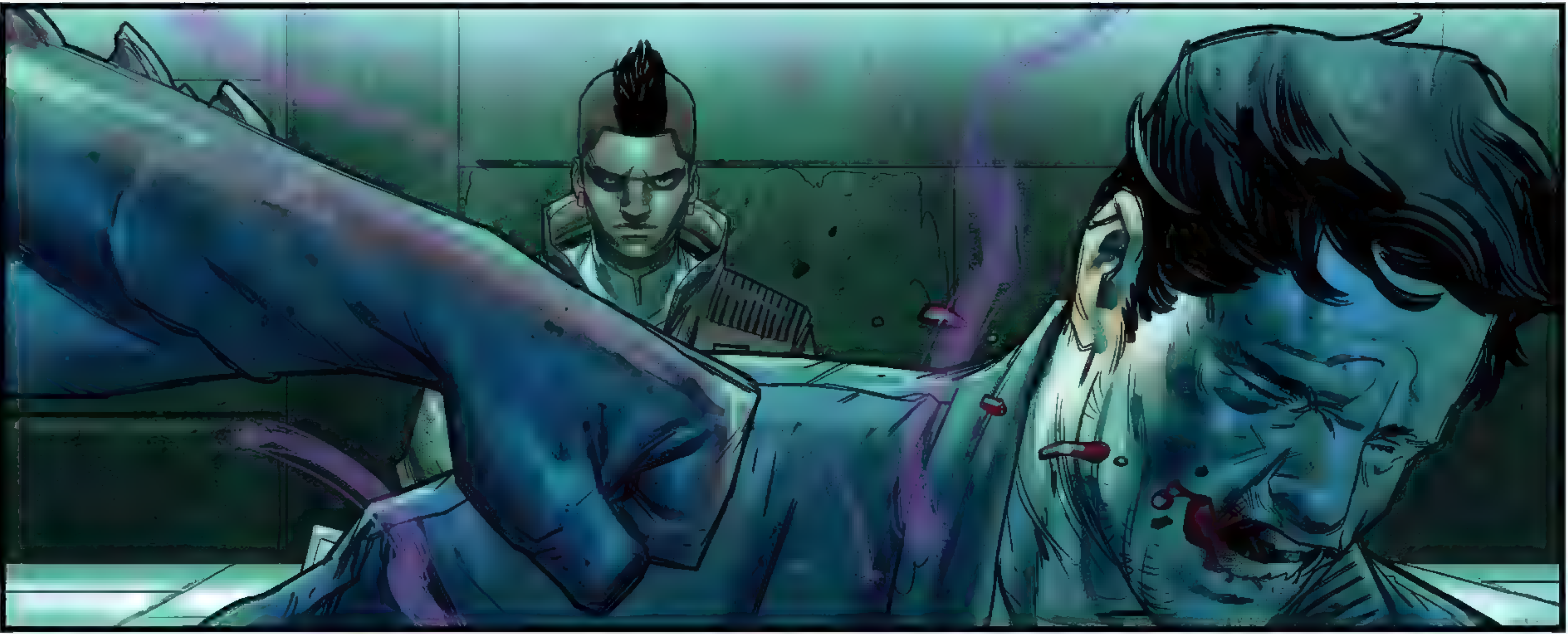


*The neck breaks louder than the moaning of the crowd.*



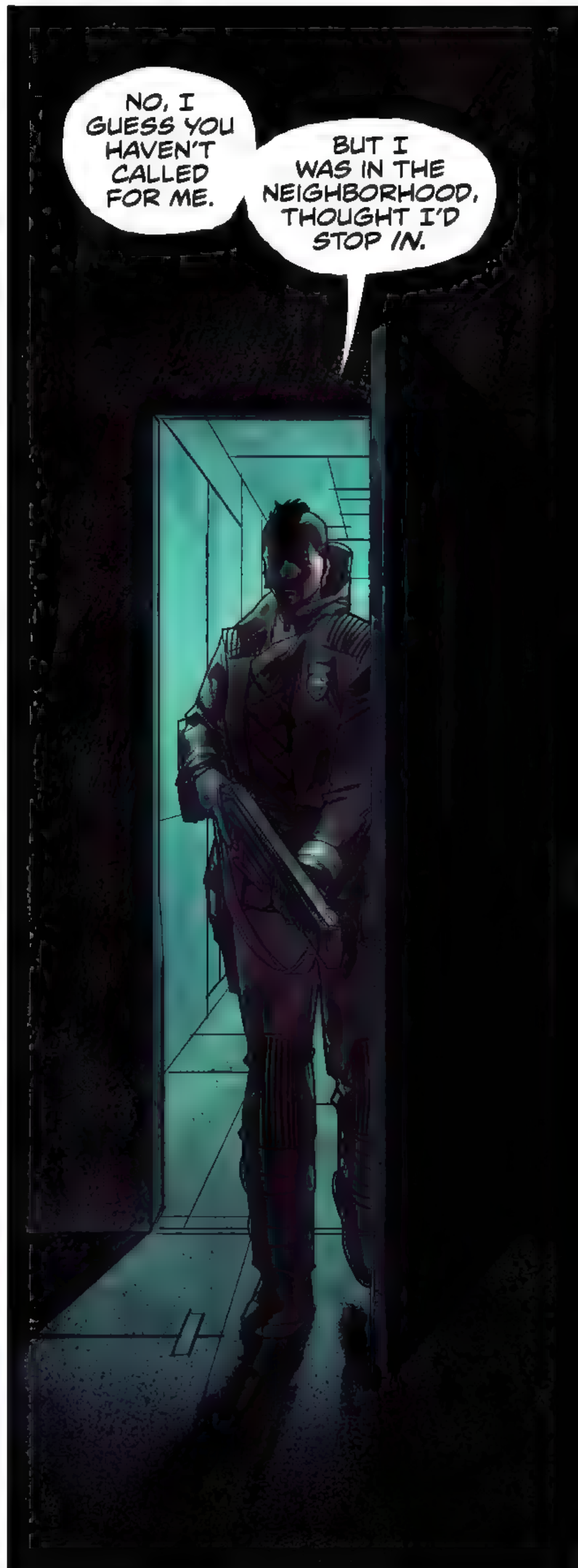
*And then there's nothing to go back to.*





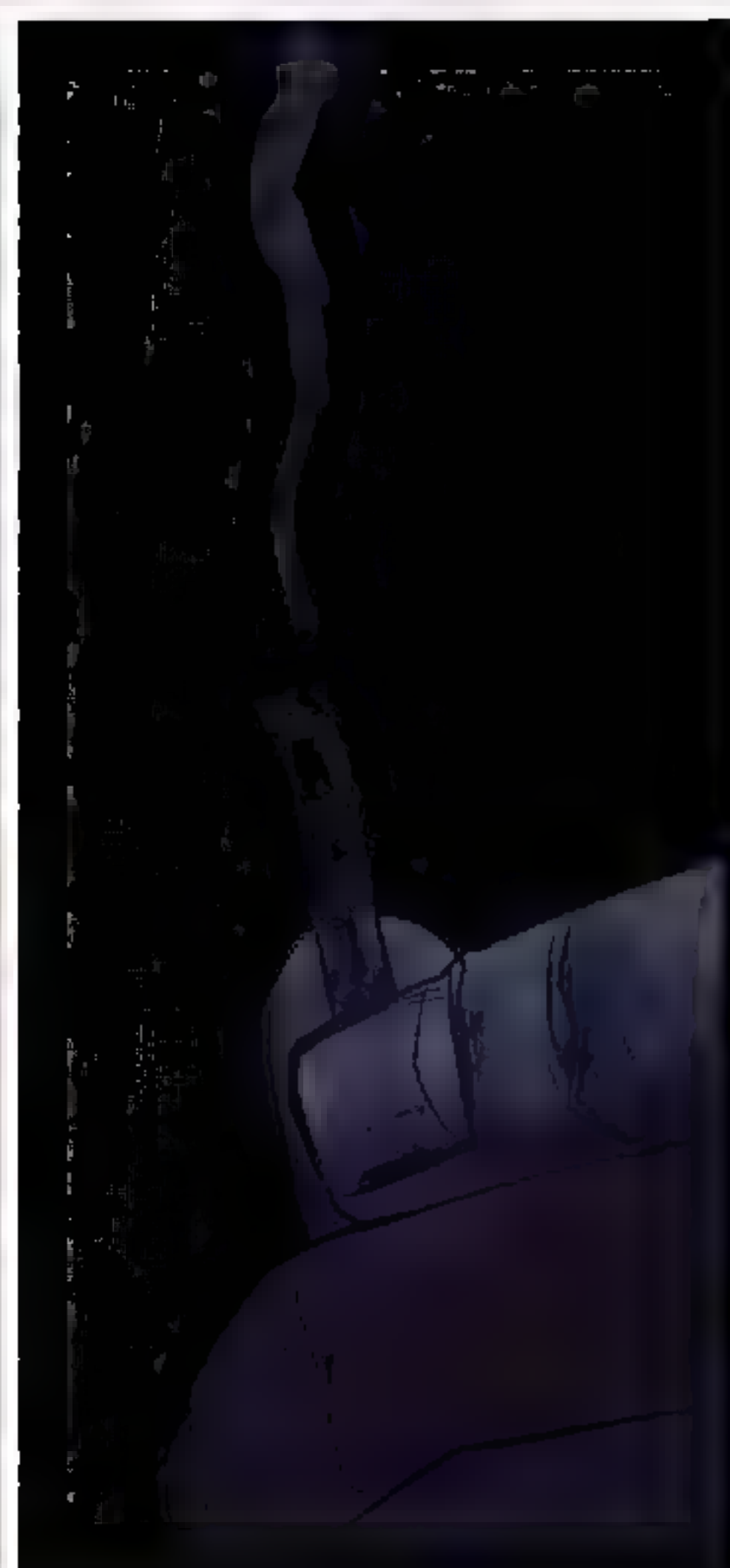
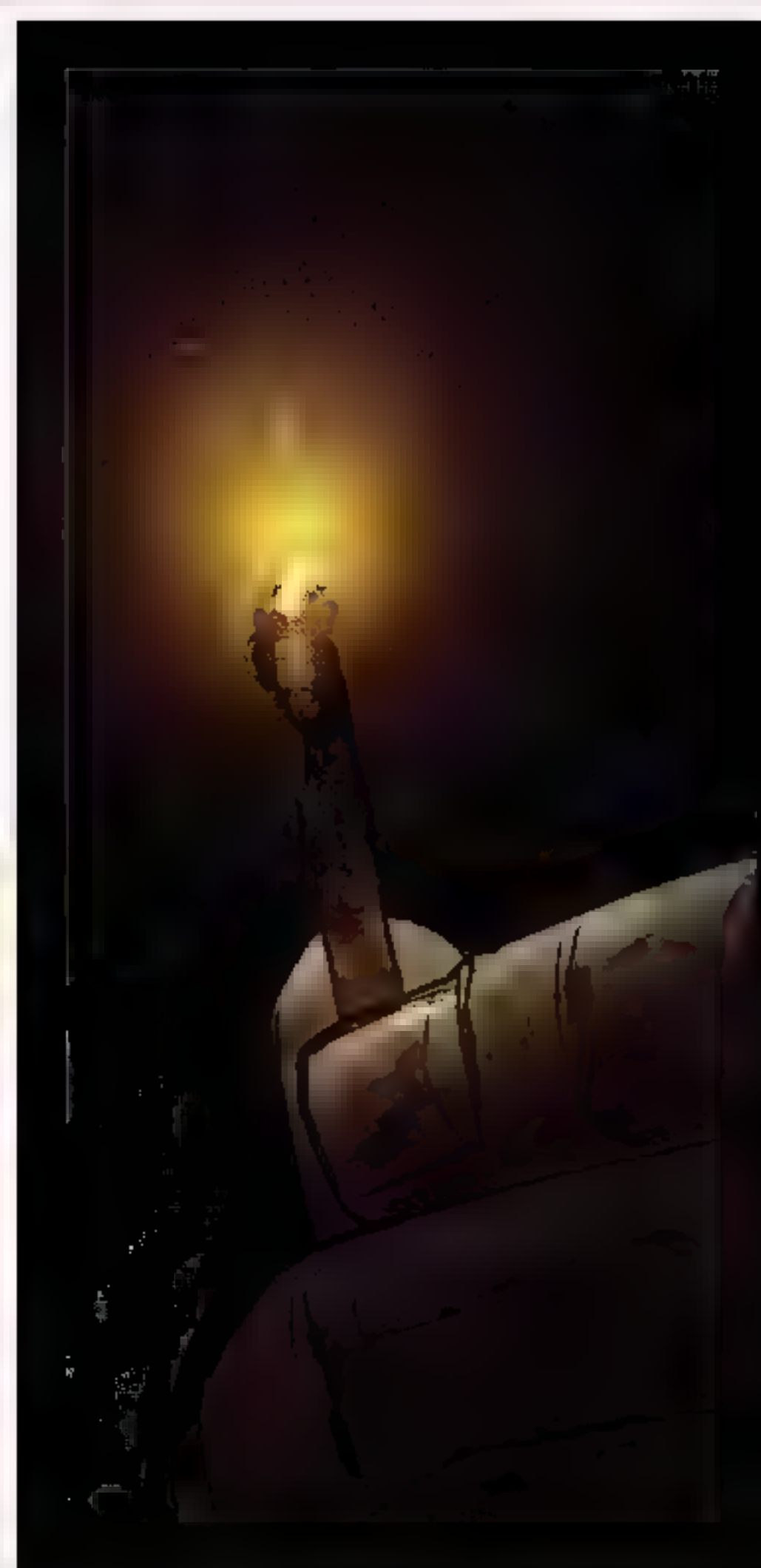
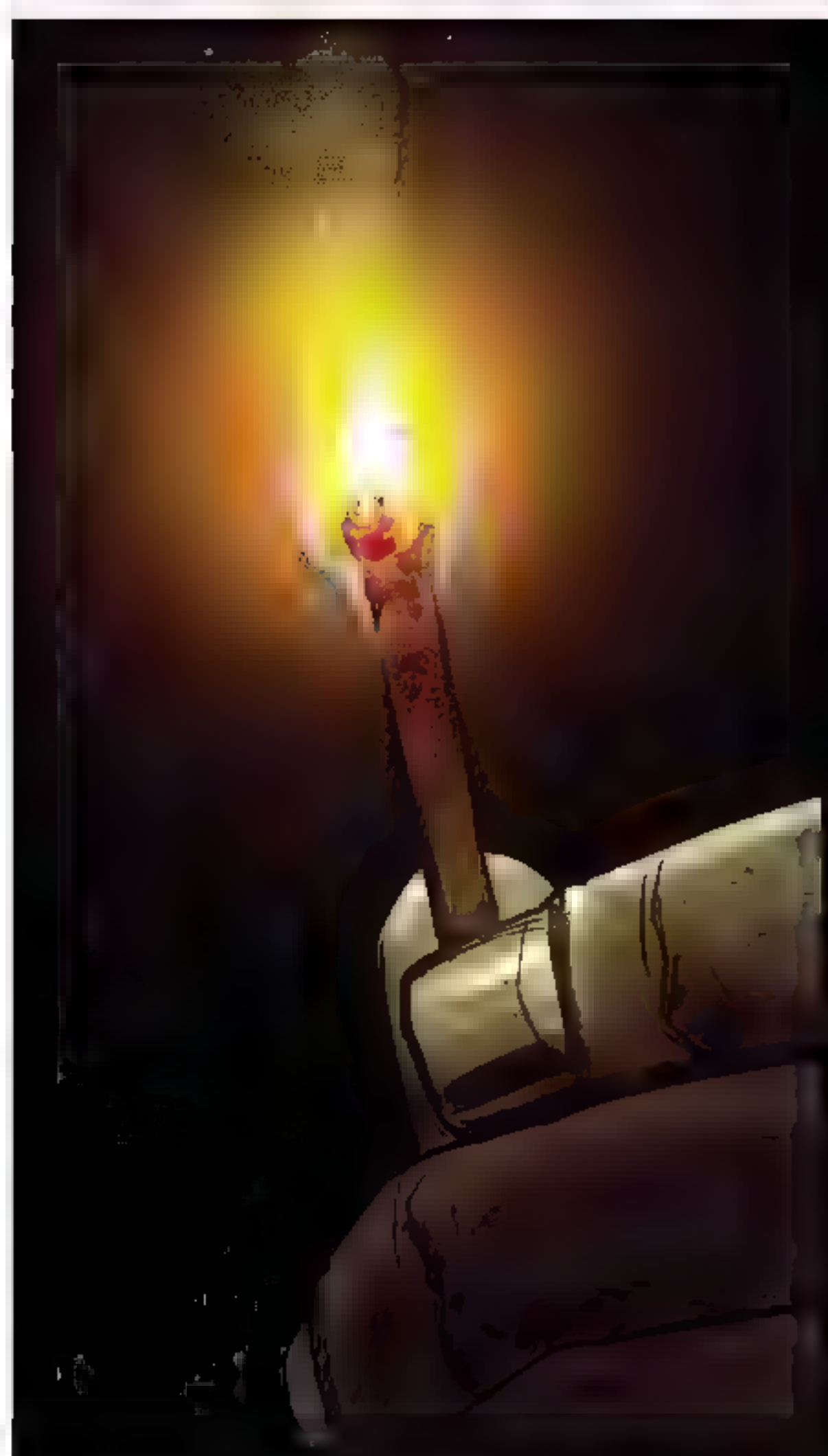
THERE  
WAS NO  
CALL.





NO, I  
GUESS YOU  
HAVEN'T  
CALLED  
FOR ME.

BUT I  
WAS IN THE  
NEIGHBORHOOD,  
THOUGHT I'D  
STOP IN.



YOU CAN  
STOP THIS  
WHOLE THING  
IN A SECOND.

NOT THE  
SKY ITSELF  
CAN END  
WHAT WILL  
COME.

WHAT  
ALWAYS  
WOULD.



WHAT WE  
WANTED WAS  
A RESPITE. A  
TIME BEFORE  
ALL THIS.

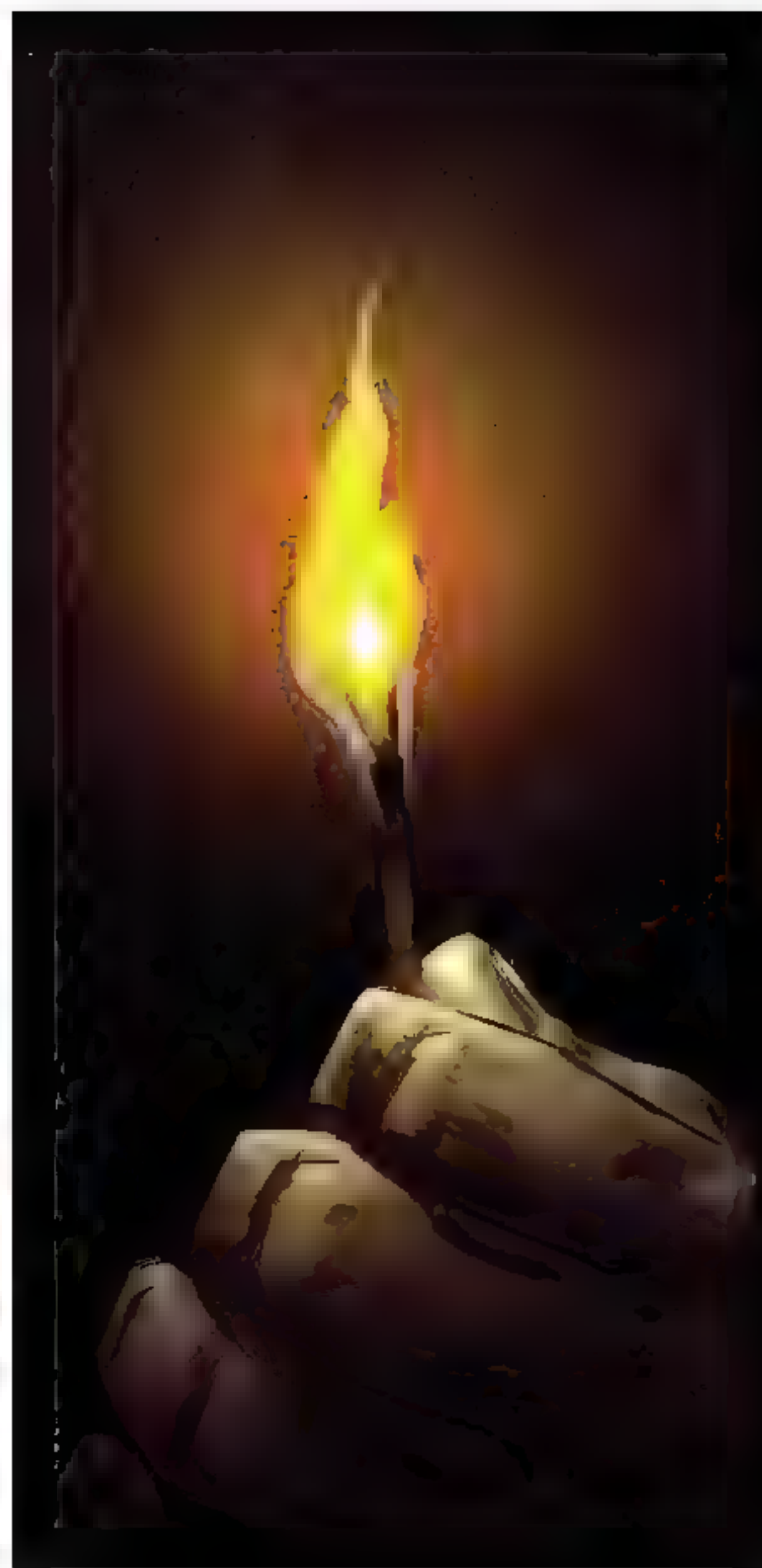




THEY LISTEN  
TO YOU, AND YOU  
TOLD THEM  
THIS WAS HOW  
IT'D BE.

THE THINGS  
WE KNOW  
WERE NEVER  
TOLD.

WHAT WE  
ARE, WHAT YOU  
ALWAYS HAVE  
BEEN.



I WANT NO  
VISITORS.



YOU HAVE  
TO STOP. I'M  
ASKING.

I'VE DONE  
RIGHT BY YOU, AND  
BY YOUR MINES. I'VE  
KEPT THEIR HEADS  
SCREWED ON AND I'VE  
NEVER LOOKED SO  
CLOSE I'D HAVE TO  
CROSS YOU.

YOU HAVE  
DONE WELL.  
GO BACK AGAIN  
AND DO IT  
FURTHER.



THOSE  
ARE MY  
PEOPLE!

THEY ARE  
WHAT THEY  
HAVE EVER  
BEEN.

THERE  
WILL BE  
OTHERS.





YOUR KIND  
AND MINE, THEY  
KNEW EACH OTHER  
BEFORE YOU AND  
BEFORE ME.

THEY  
ALWAYS  
HAVE.



PULL  
THEM  
BACK.

YOU FORGET  
YOUR PLACE. GO  
OUT AND LEAVE IT  
TO ITS COURSE.

THERE WILL  
BE MORE FOR YOU  
TO DO WHEN ALL  
IS ENDED.



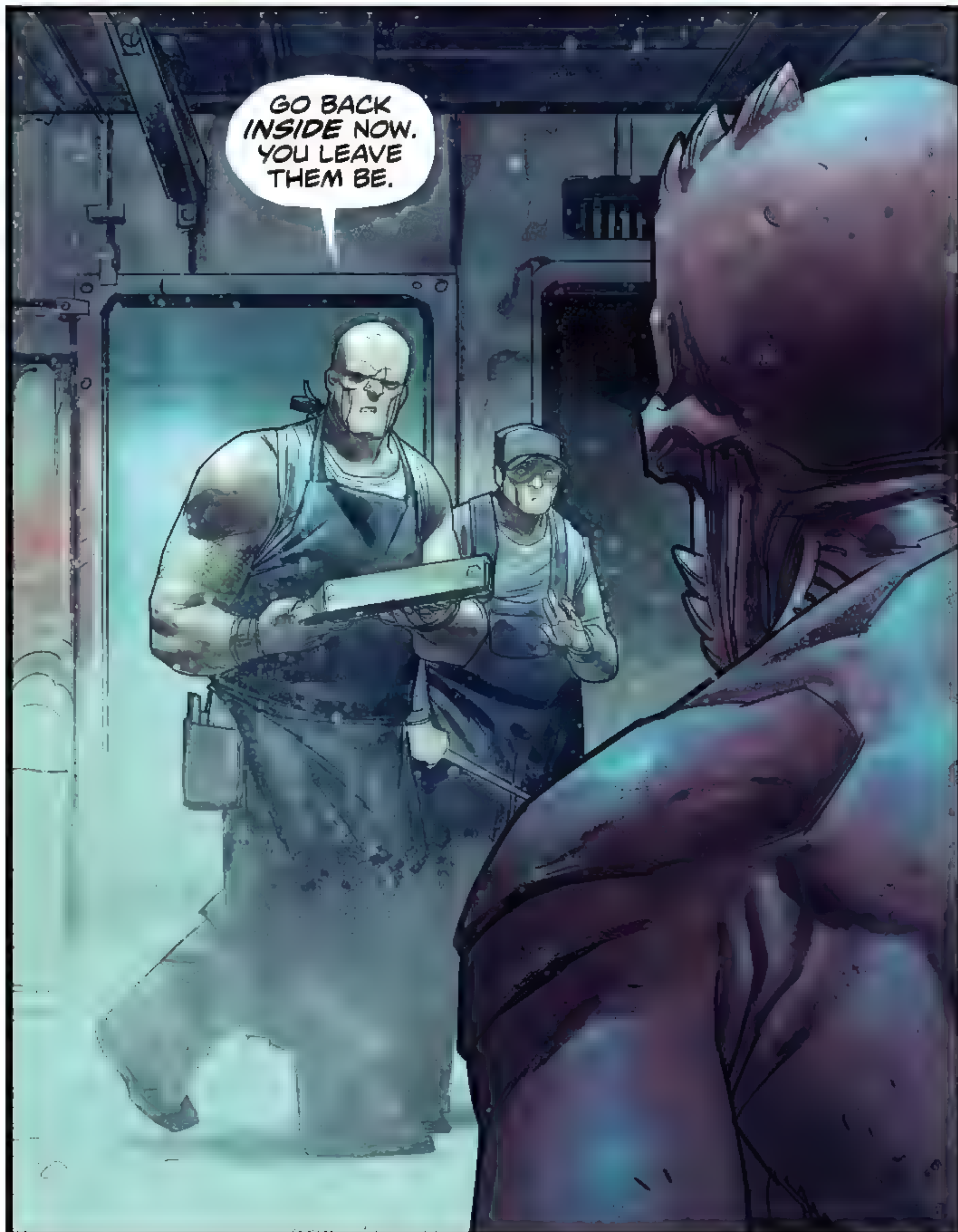
YOU'RE  
FORCING MY  
HAND.



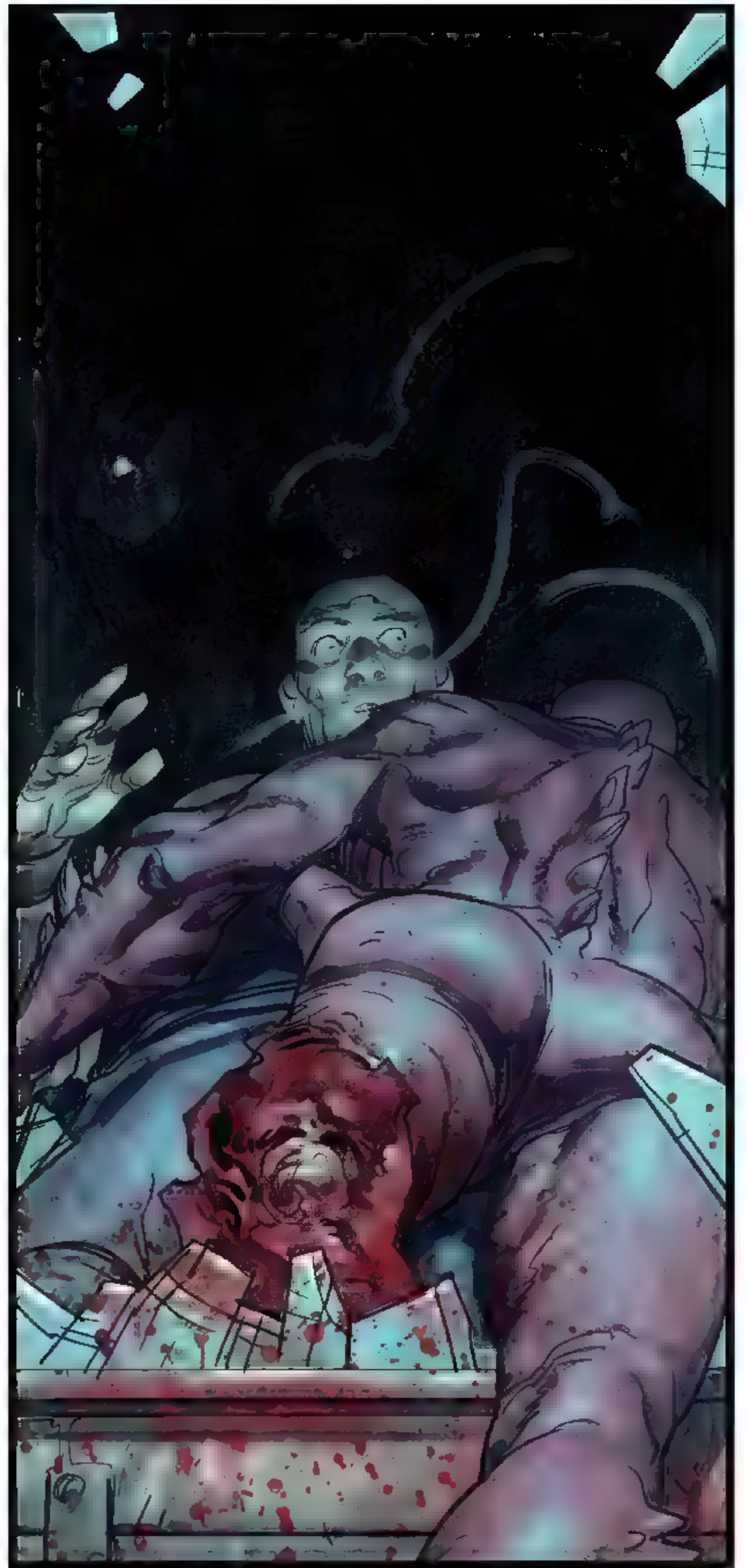
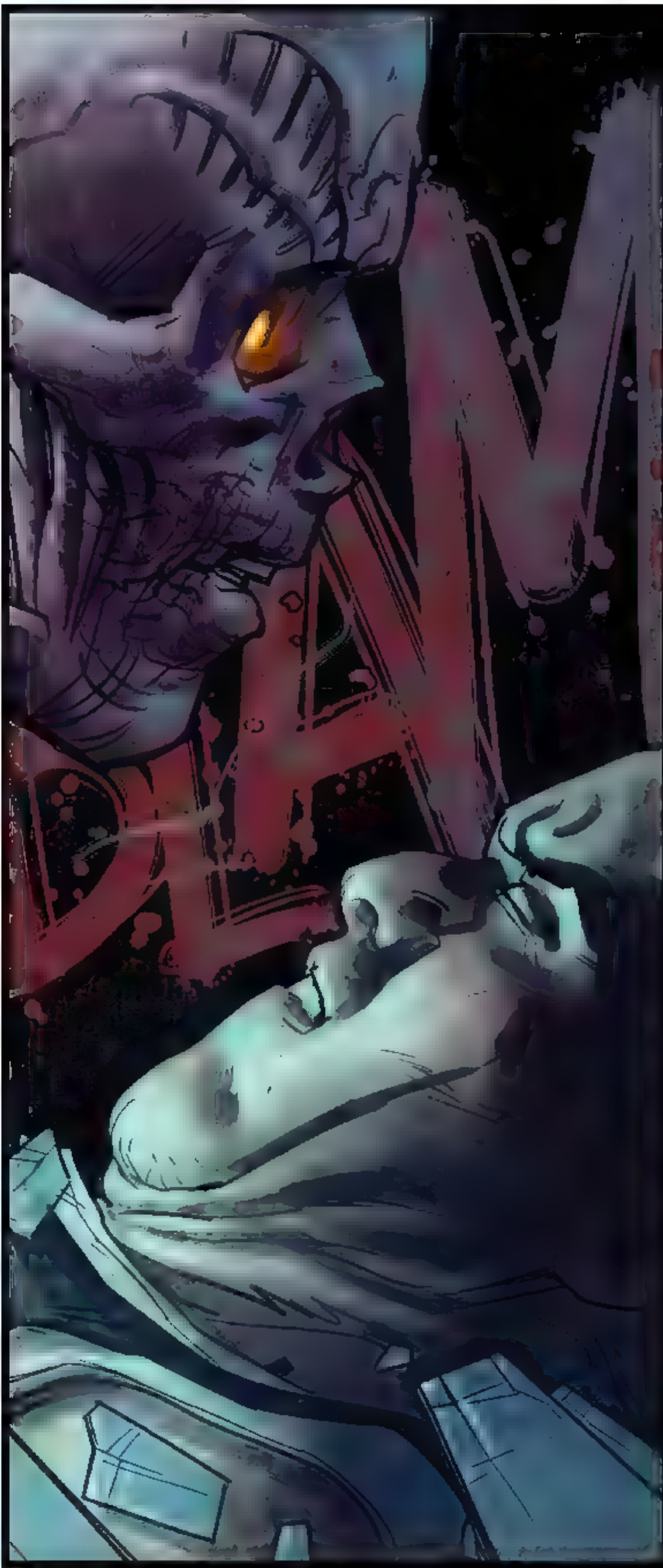
A POWER  
I DO NOT  
HAVE.

GO CLOSE  
YOUR EYES  
AND SOON  
THE NOISE  
WILL STOP.











DRIFTER # 122 JUNE 2016 Copyright © 2016 Agaiindemon LLC & Nicolas Klein. All rights reserved. Published by Image Comics, Inc. Office of publication: 2001 Center Street, Sixth floor, Berkeley, CA 94704. Drifter, the Drifter logos, and the likenesses of all characters herein are trademarks of Agaiindemon LLC & Nicolas Klein, unless otherwise noted. Image, and the Image Comics logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. No part of this publication (except for short excerpts for journalistic or review purposes) may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Agaiindemon LLC, Nicolas Klein, or Image Comics, Inc. All names, characters, events, and locales in this publication are entirely fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, or places, without satiric intent, is coincidental. DIGITAL EDITION: Representation Law Offices of Harris M. Miller, LLP.

Script: Ivan Brandon

Full color art: Nic Klein

Lettering: Aditya Bidikar

Logo and design: Tom Muller

Cover artists: Cover A: Nic Kein

Cover B: Devmalya Pramanik (Nic Klein colors)

Editor: Sebastian Girner

# DRIFTER

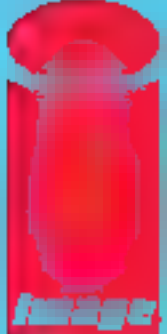
## SOULS

DRIFTER created by Ivan Brandon and Nic Klein  
AN OFFSET COMICS PRODUCTION

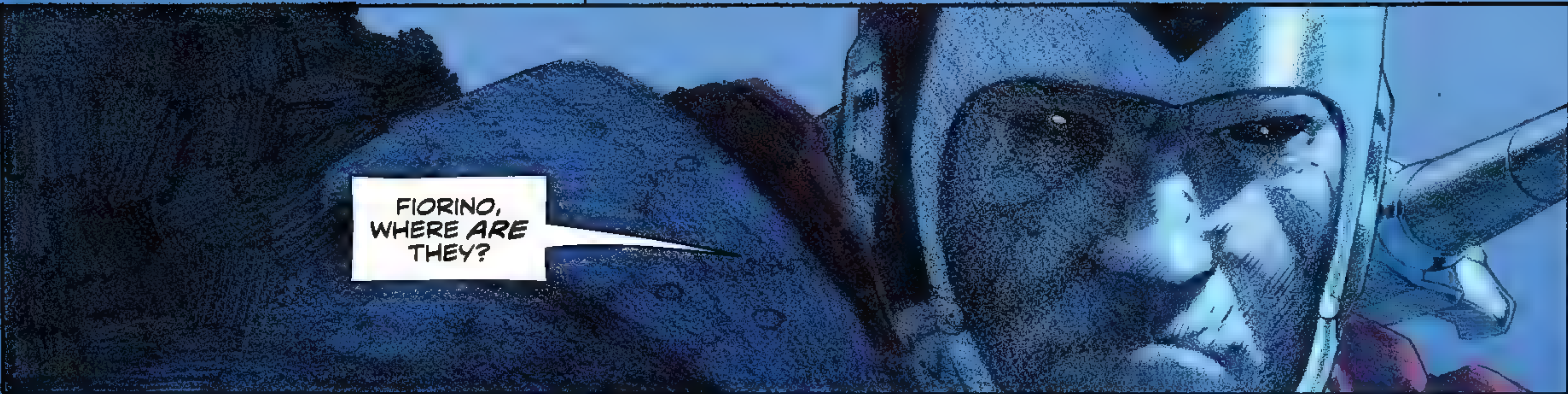
Image Comics, Inc.

● Robert Kirkman, Chief Operating Officer / Erik Larsen, Chief Financial Officer / Todd McFarlane, President / Marco Silvestri, Chief Executive Officer / Jim Valentino, Vice-President ● Eric Stephenson, Publisher / Corey Murphy, Director of Sales / Jeff Boison, Director of Publishing Planning & Book Trade Sales / Jeremy Sullivan, Director of Digital Sales / Kate Salazar, Director of PR & Marketing / Emily Miller, Director of Operations / Branwyn Bigglestone, Senior Accounts Manager / Sarah Mello, Accounts Manager / Drew Gill, Art Director / Jonathan Chan, Production Manager / Meredith Wallace, Print Manager / Brian Skelly, Publicist / Sasha Head, Sales & Marketing Production Designer / Randy Okamura, Digital Production Designer / David Brothers, Branding Manager / Addison Duke, Production Artist / Vincent Kikua, Production Artist / Tricia Ramos, Production Artist / Jeff Stang, Direct Market Sales Representative / Emilio Bautista, Digital Sales Associate / Jeanna Gaunter, Accounting Assistant / Chloe Ramos-Peterson, Administrative Assistant

Imagecomics.com







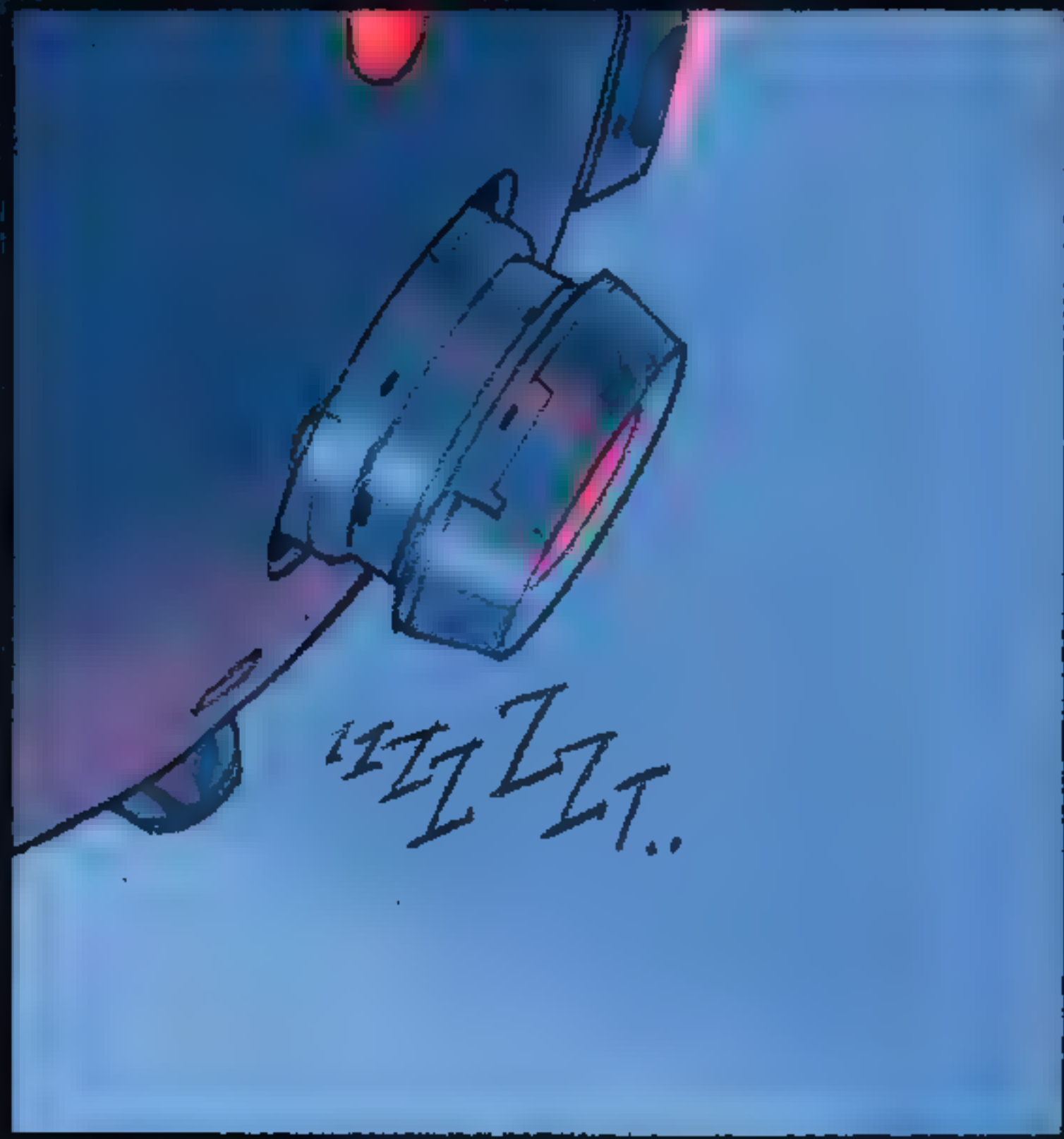
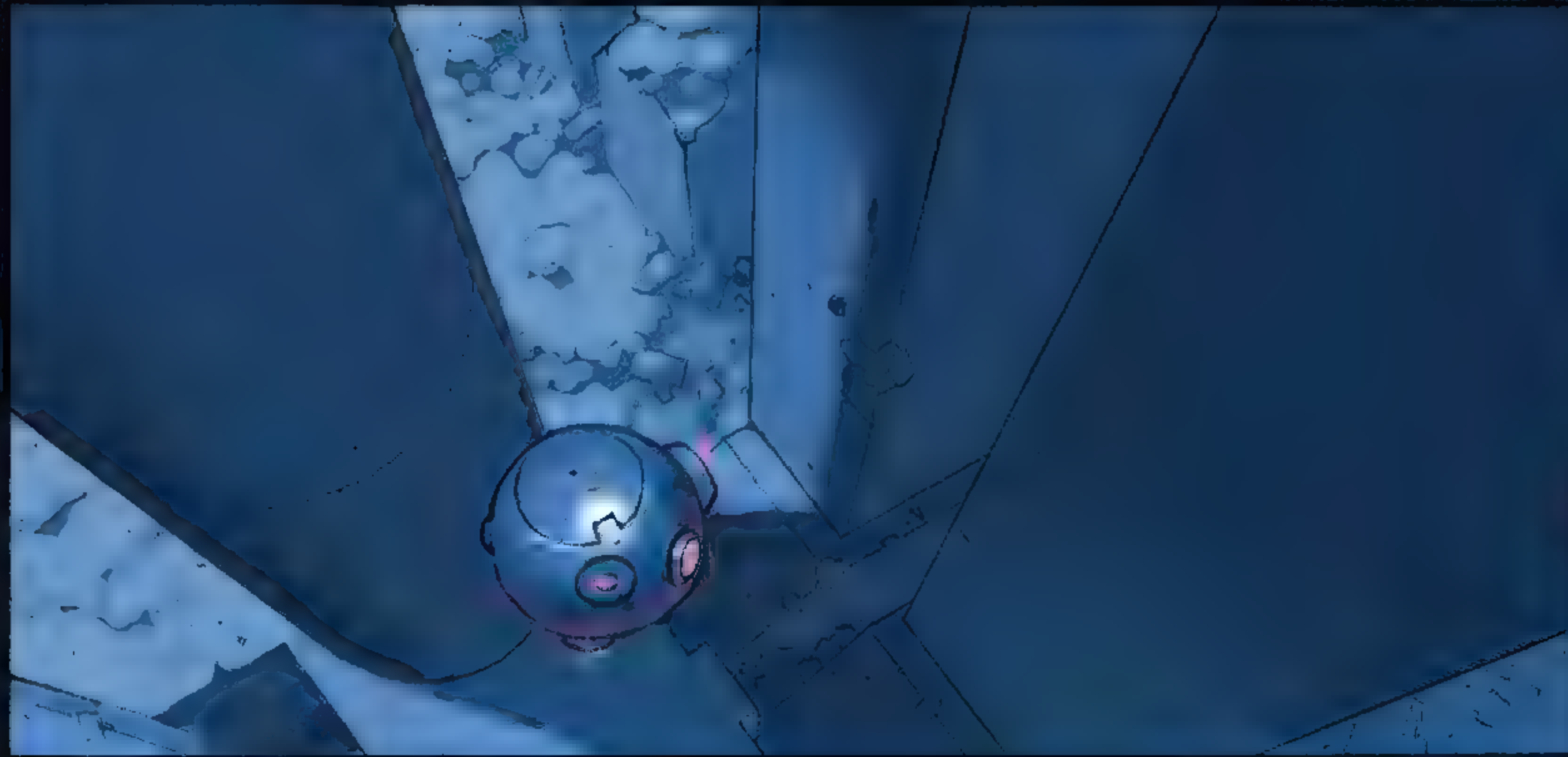
FIORINO,  
WHERE ARE  
THEY?

IVAN BRANDON  
ESAD RIBIC

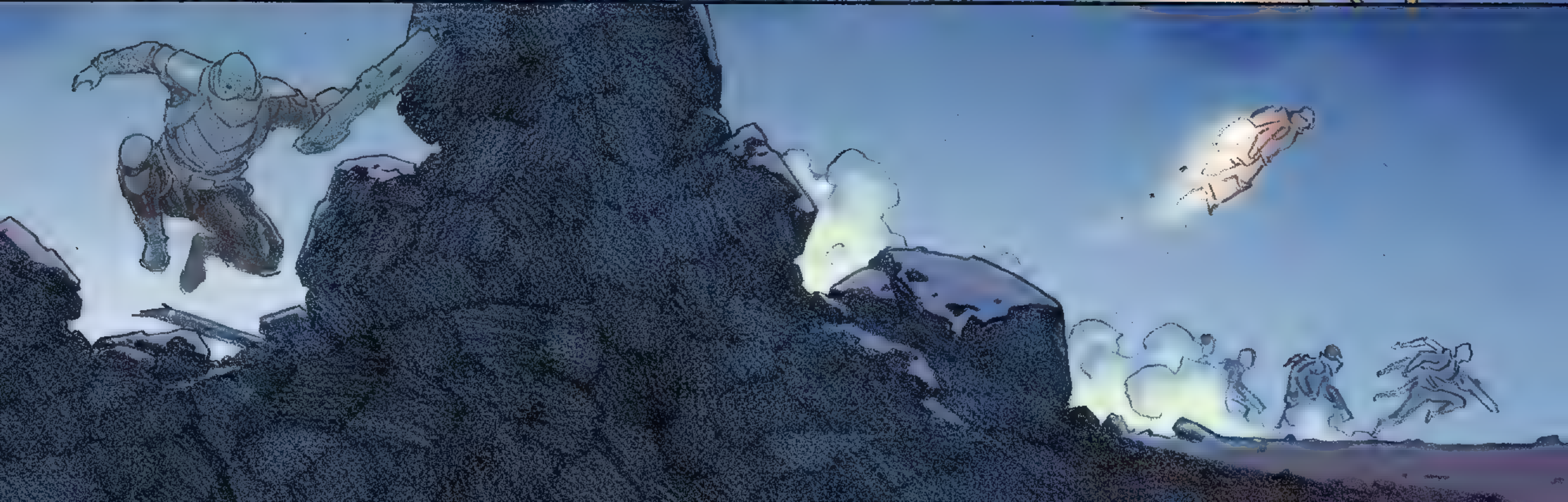
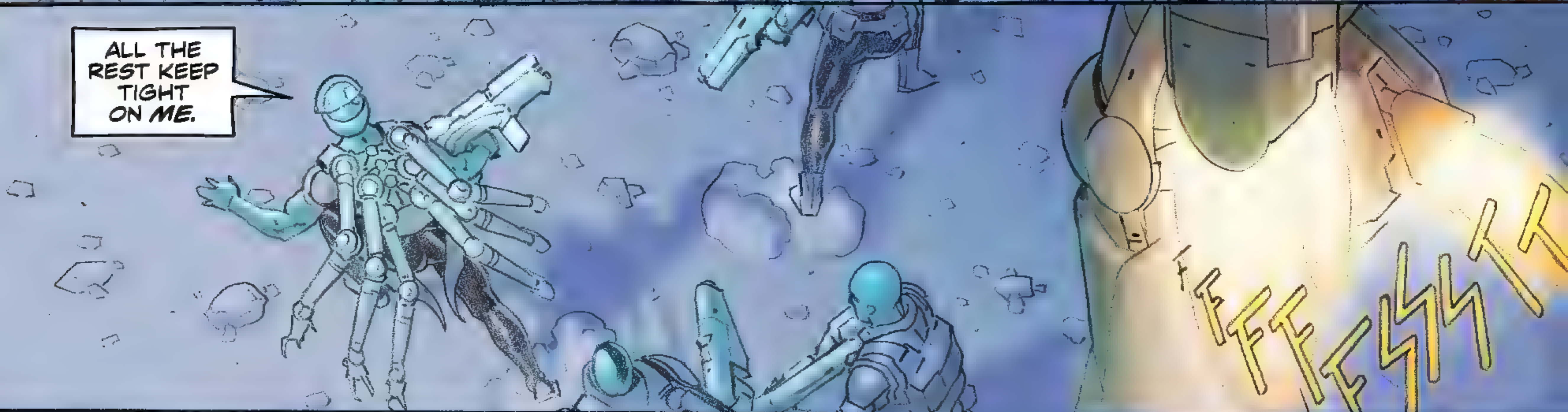
ONE CLICK  
SOUTH-  
SOUTHWEST.

VS

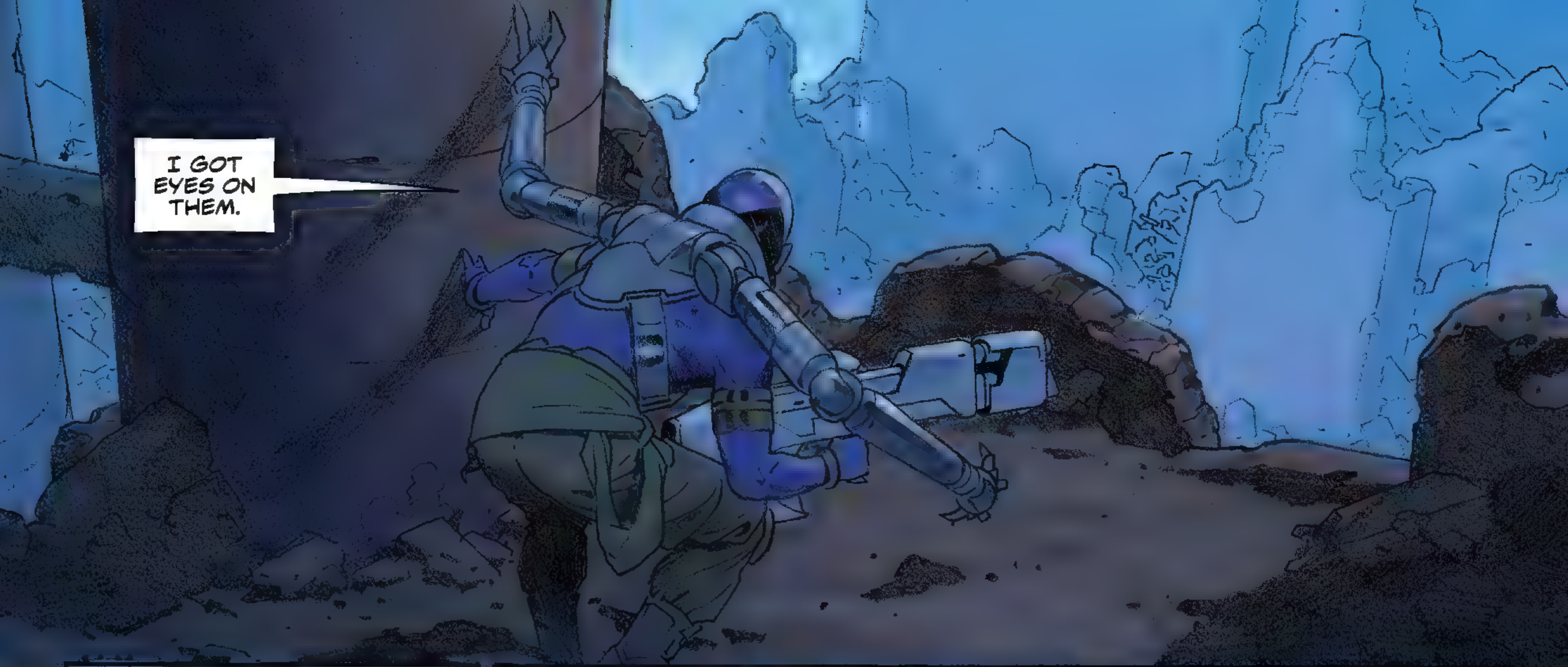
THEY'RE  
COMING  
FOR US.











I GOT  
EYES ON  
THEM.



THEY'RE...  
WAITING?



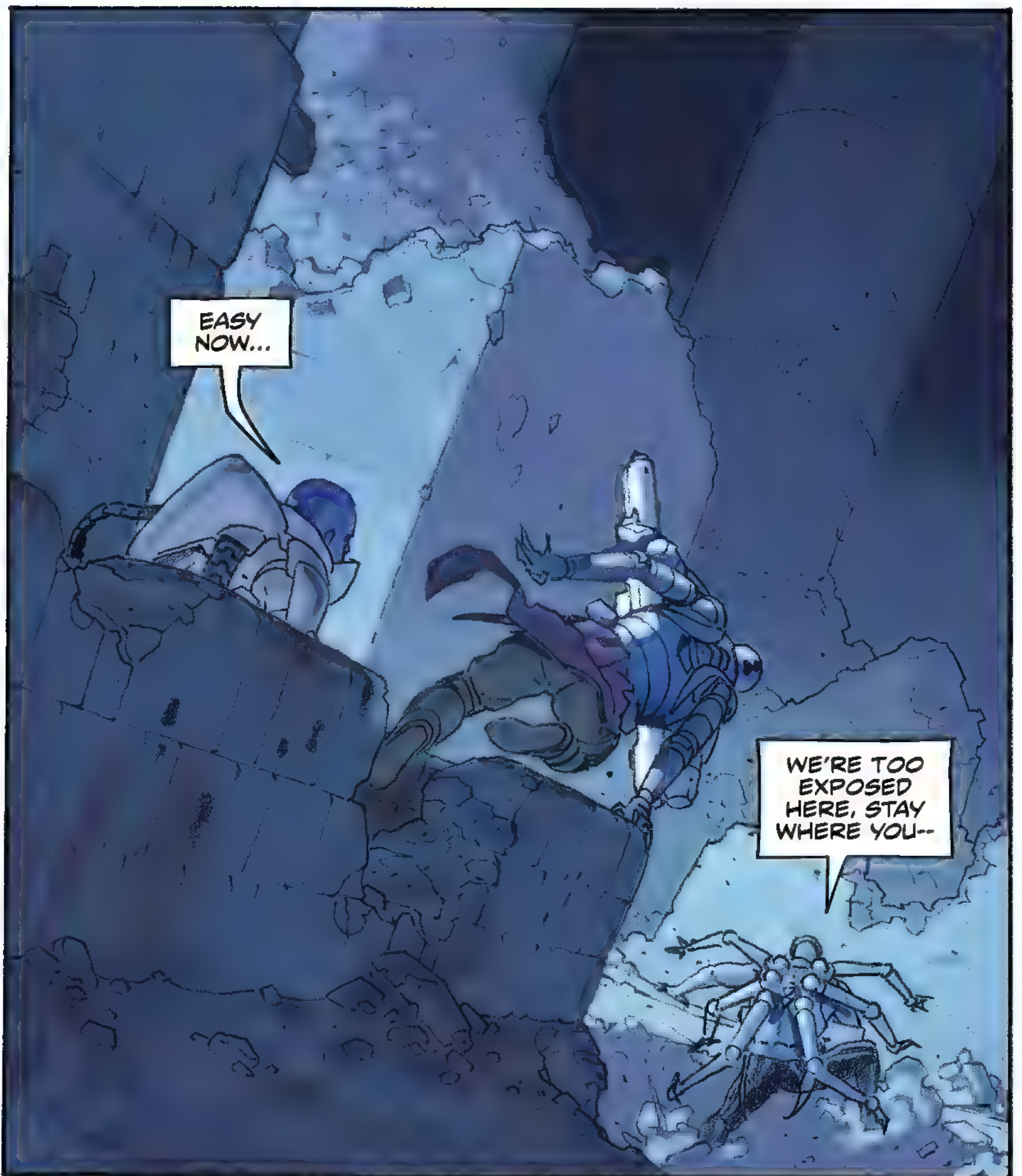
THAT'S  
NO GOOD.

NO. BRING THEM  
AROUND, DALEY.

FWOW



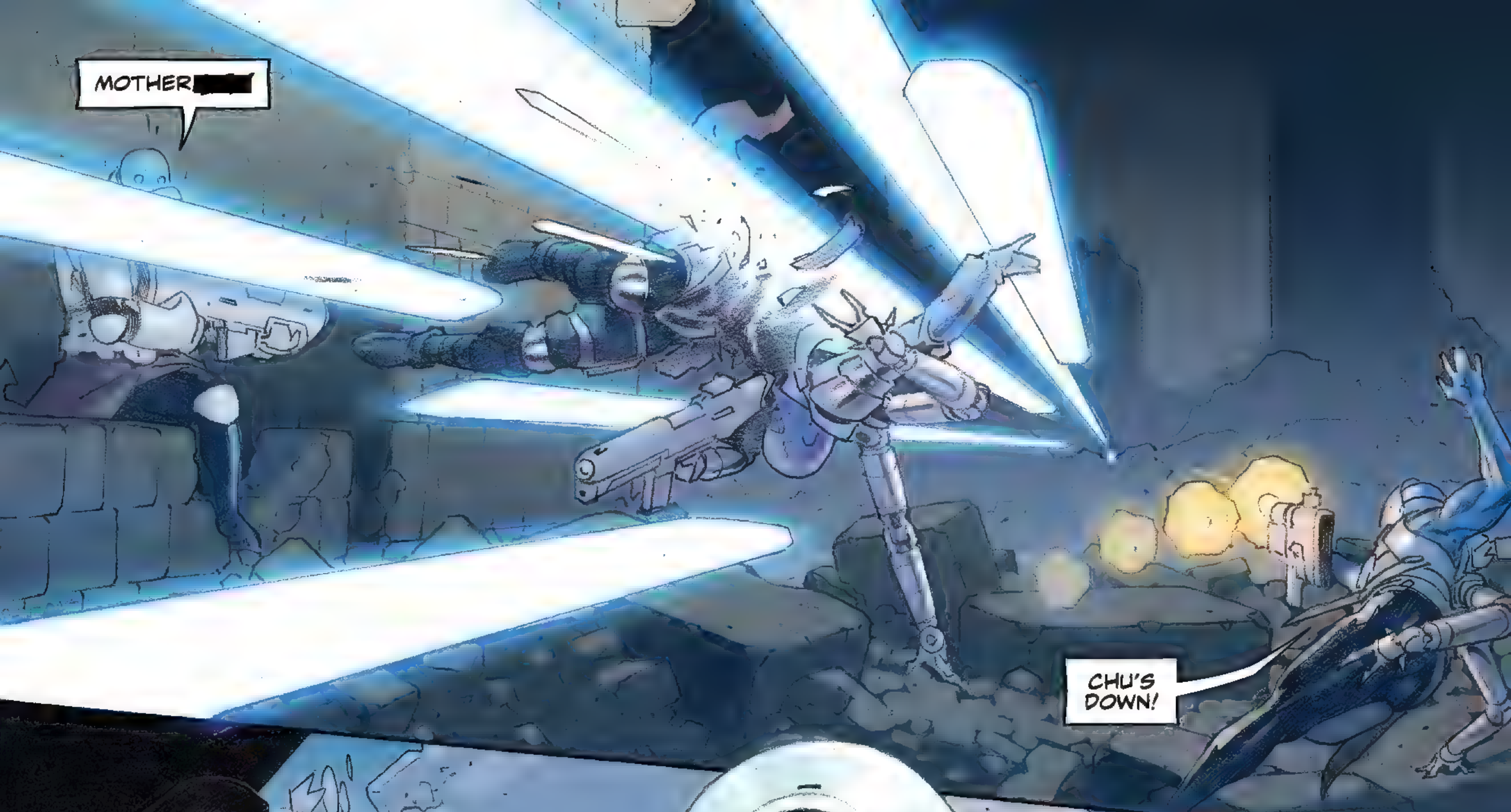
I WOULD  
LOVE TO.



EASY  
NOW...

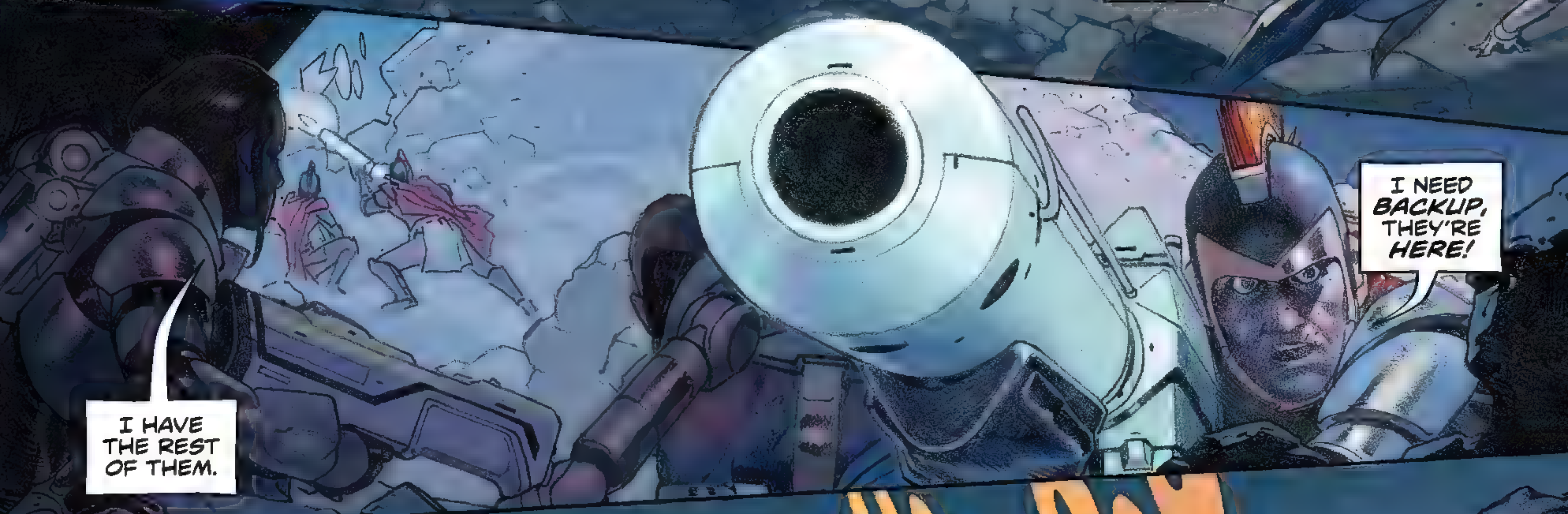
WE'RE TOO  
EXPOSED  
HERE, STAY  
WHERE YOU--





MOTHER

CHU'S DOWN!



I HAVE THE REST OF THEM.

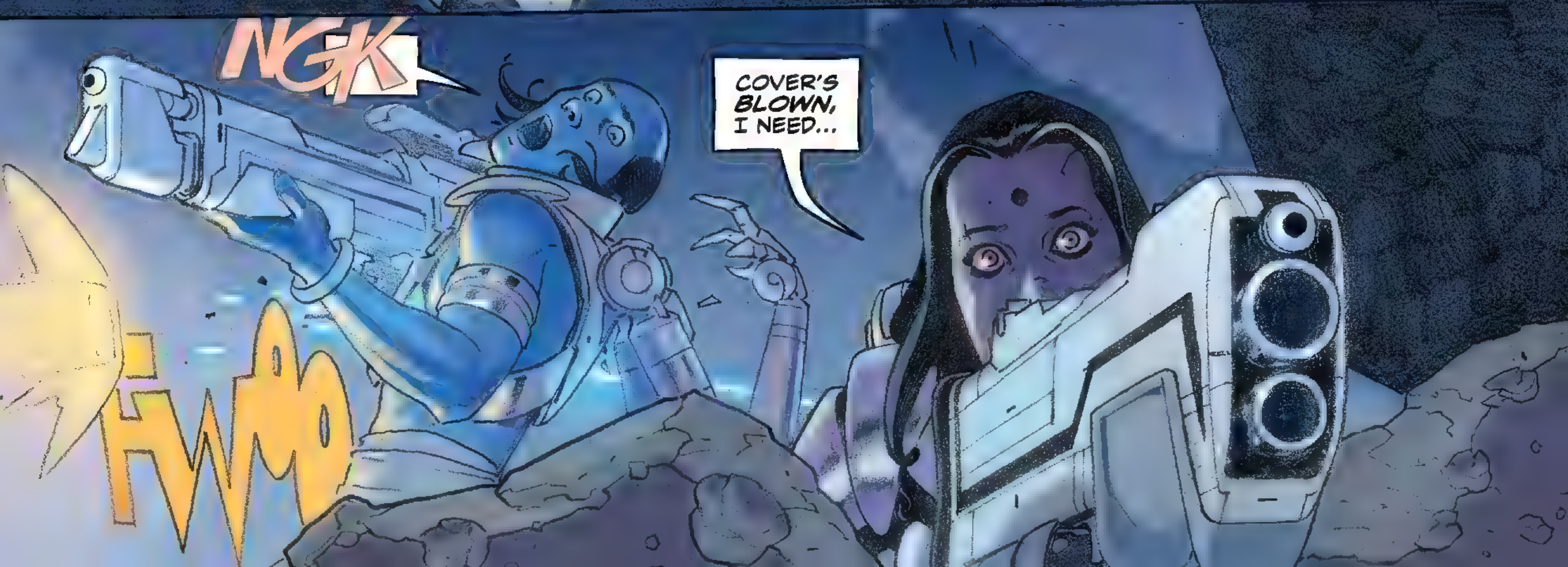
I NEED BACKUP, THEY'RE HERE!



HKKK

FWN FWN

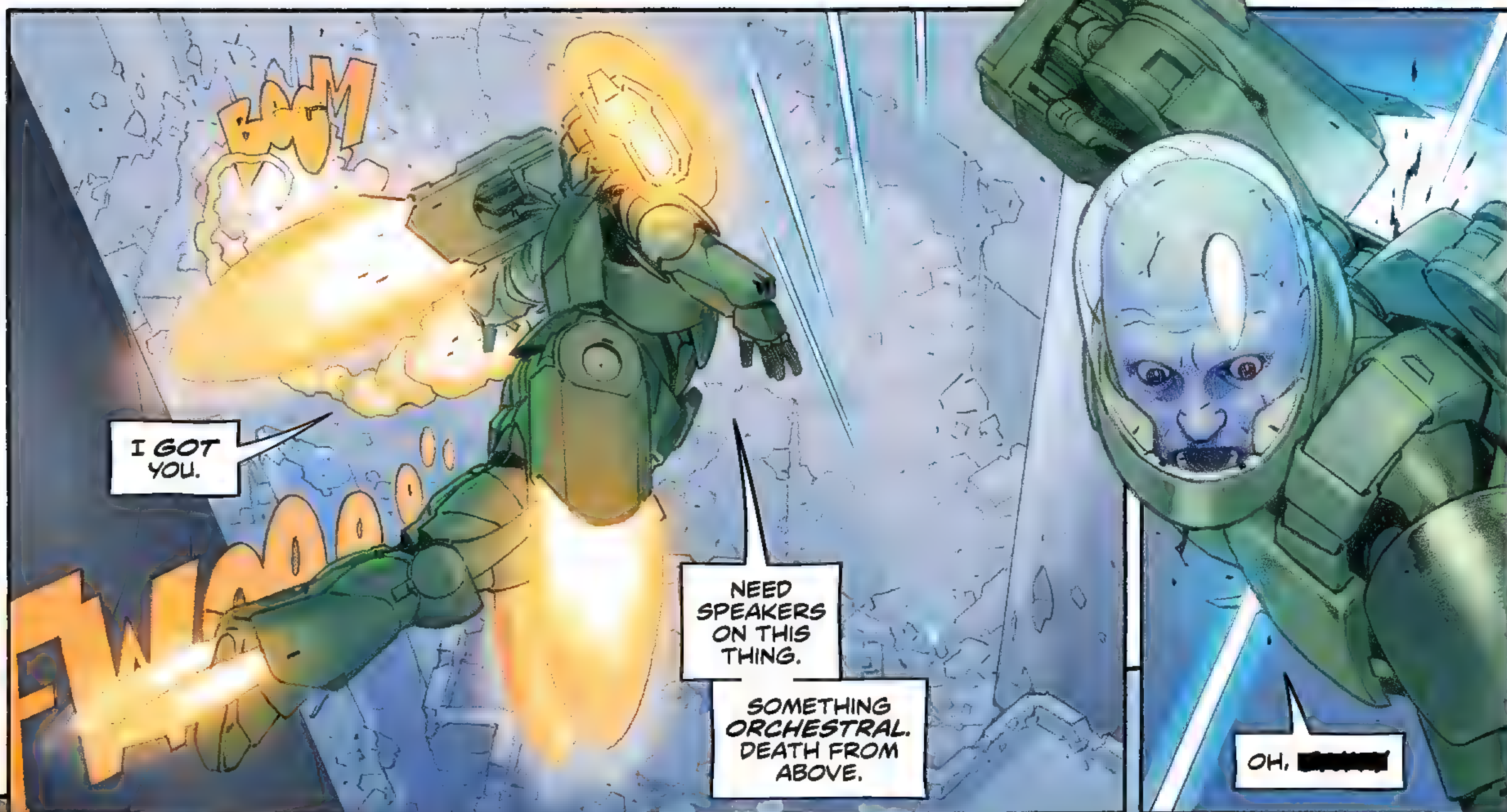
WE GOT THEIR CAP.



NGK

COVER'S BLOWN, I NEED...





I GOT YOU.

NEED SPEAKERS ON THIS THING.

SOMETHING ORCHESTRAL. DEATH FROM ABOVE.

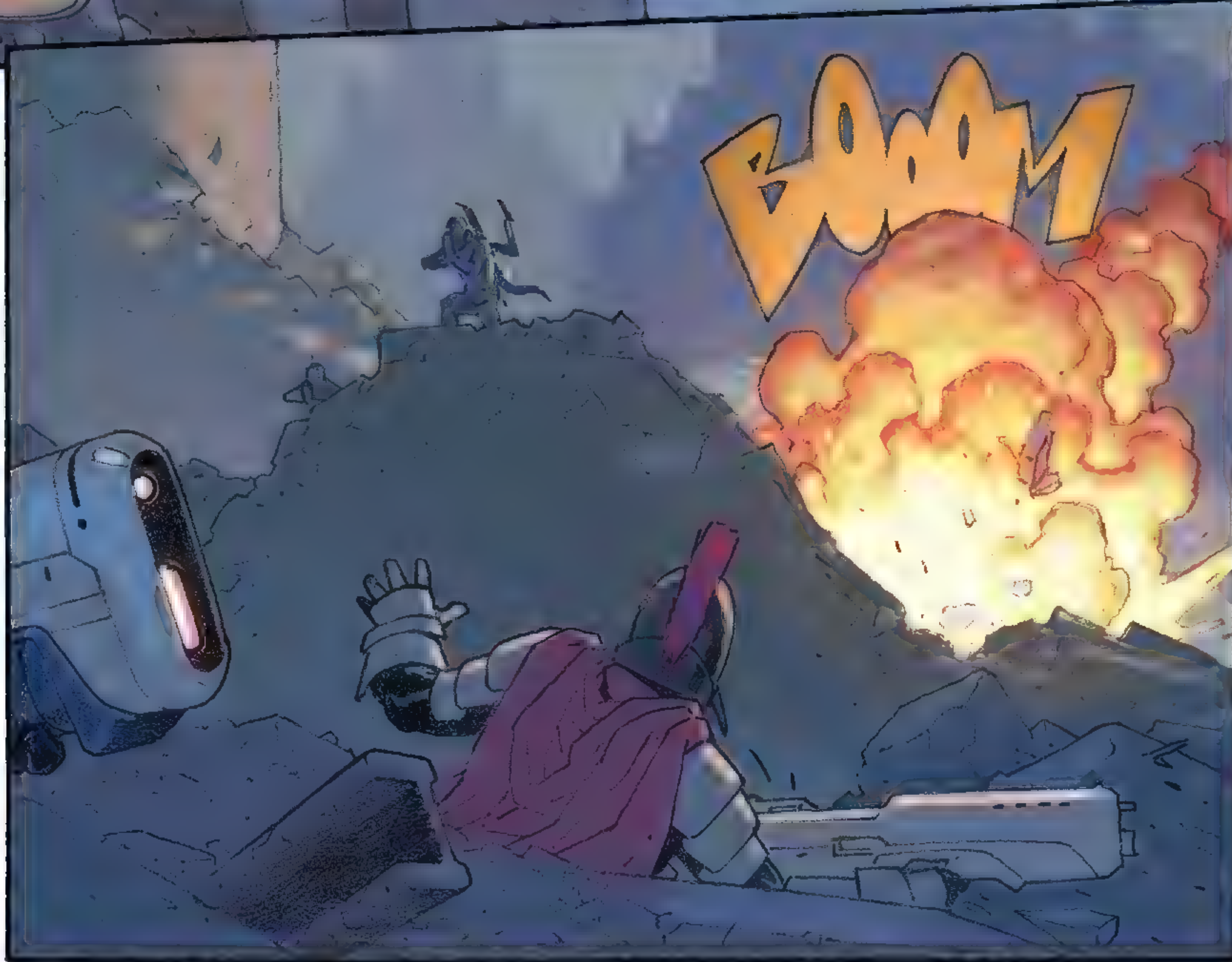
OH, [REDACTED]



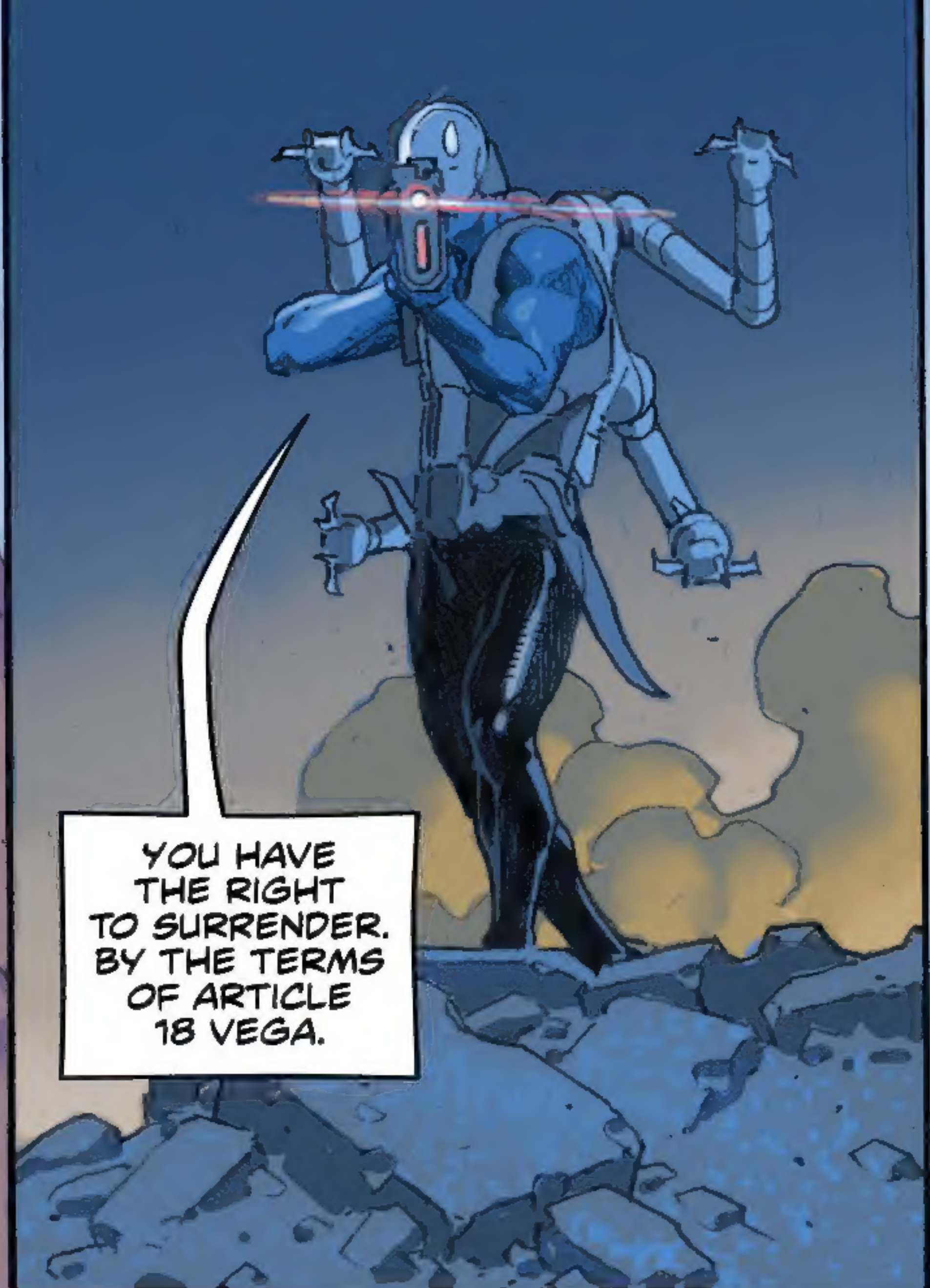
CRASH AND BURN, YOU RANCID--  
AAGH!



BEHIND US. HOW ARE THEY BEHIND--?







YOU HAVE  
THE RIGHT  
TO SURRENDER.  
BY THE TERMS  
OF ARTICLE  
18 VEGA.



I WAS BEHIND  
YOU. HOW DID  
YOU--?

VID  
ERROR.



3-MINUTE  
WAR DELAY.

**WHAT?!**



WE WILL RETURN  
TO THE CONFLICT  
SHORTLY.

WAR  
DELAY?

**VS COMING SOON FROM**

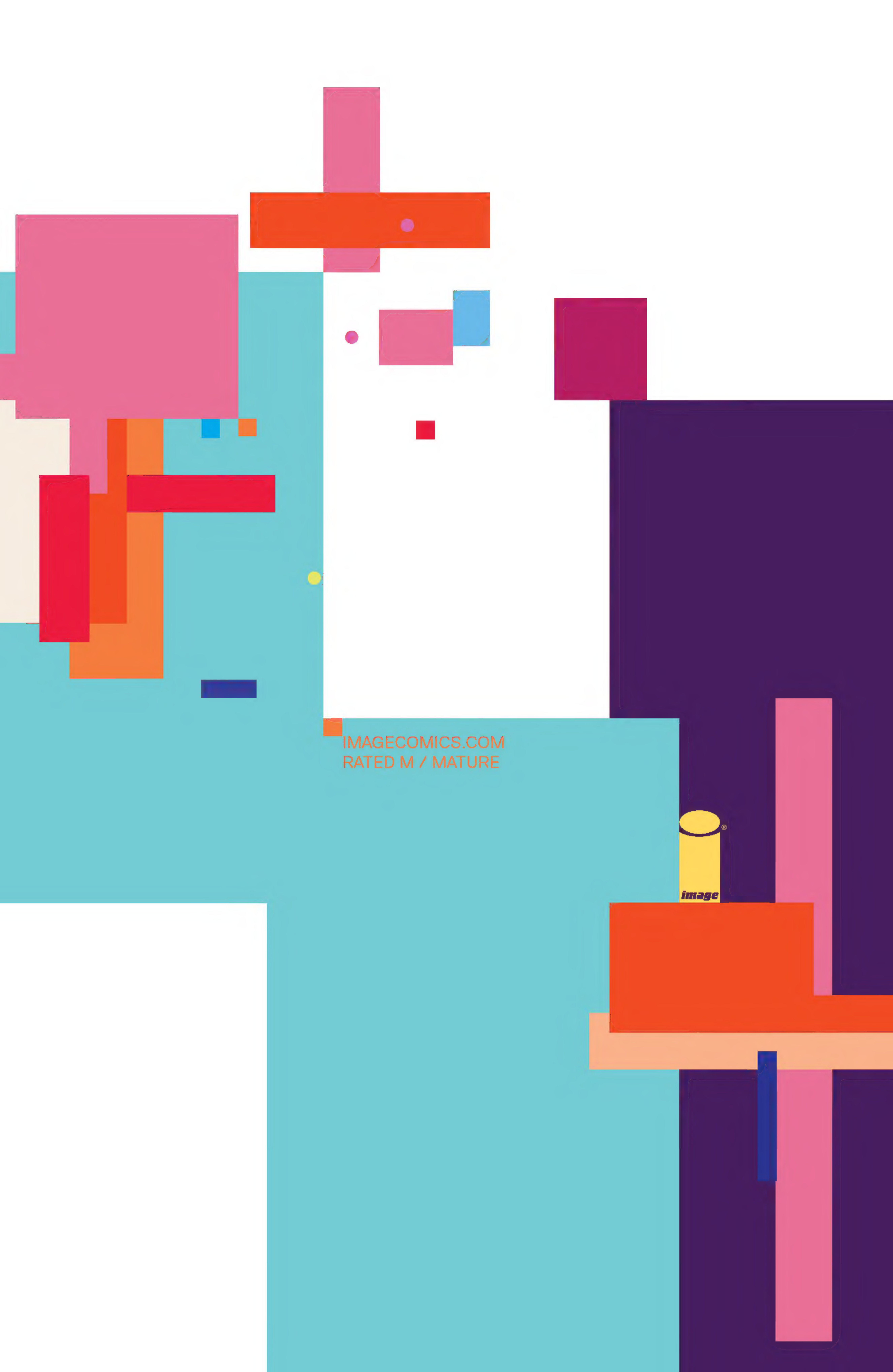




NEXT ISSUE







IMAGECOMICS.COM  
RATED M / MATURE





SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN...  
THIS MONSTER!"

